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TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1917.

A LINE O' CHEER

(Written especially for The Washington Herald.)

By John Kendrick Bangs.

TEARS.

Tears—alas, they are not few
In these days of war and rue.
Yet, as through mine own I gaze
On the sorrows of my days—
Positively an idle dream.
Yet, 'tis true, they suffer seem.
Maybe tears are blessings rare
To ease the sting of care!

(Copyright, 1917.)

At Fort Myer yesterday they furnished 1,500 new reasons why the Kaiser cannot win the war.

And among the unusual exemption claims is the man who claims he is Chinese instead of American. Will the exemption board claim he is yellow?

Congratulations to Maj. Newman, of the army, and may he give as efficient service in his new office as he has given as Commissioner for the District of Columbia.

Speaking about doing one's bit, the exemption boards are doing it conscientiously in a job where they get no particular honor except that which accrues from a sense of a national duty well done.

It appears that President Wilson notes greater menaces of America than Tammany in New York City. Accordingly Mayor John Purroy Mitchell and his cohorts will have to run the Gotham campaign without assistance.

When they can tear down three of the silent picket banners without it appearing in the afternoon headlines, it looks as though the "suff" campaign managers have not to devise new methods of holding their jobs.

The June, July and August brides are daily appearing at the Capitol, and the guides tell us they are not war brides, which is the best indication that old Dan Cupid is still neutral.

Cartoonist Baer, now being among real politicians in his associates in the House, ought to be able to draw one from life, without a paunch, double chin, and other familiar features which one never sees upon a real politician.

MY CREED.

Just to touch the heart of someone as I journey on life's way,
Just to sound the hidden depths that few may know;

Just to win a friendly smile, that's the thing that a most worthy while,
And to lend a helping hand as I go.

Just to be an adept scholar in the art of reading men;
Just to sense another's burdens and despair;

Then to make him understand, with a meaning clasp of hand,
That I'm glad to sympathize and really care.

Just to be a confidant, in a crucial moment found
When some heart must then unload its weight of care;

Just to know the thing to say, in a sympathetic way,
When I'm called upon another's woes to share.

Just to spread a ray of sunshine as I walk the lonely path;
Just to let some lonely stranger, who is blue,

Feel that I'm a kindred soul, making for the self-same goal,
And I know the ups and downs he's having, too.

Just to take what comes each day and be grateful as I should,
Just to be considerate of other men;

Just to learn to grin and bear when I meet with meager fare,
And to be a friend to all within my ken.

—Louis Allen Bowman, in Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

AT WAR.

There's a nation gone insane—sad to say,
Seems to have the mark of Cain—hell to pay.

All the while in a rage,
All are thinking war to wage,
So that strife won't breed again—some other day.

Dreams of glory, power and fame—oh, beware,
Schemes of war, an awful game—all declare.

Old, old, story, heaps of dying,
Those at home, heartbroken, crying,

All because the vandals war game—over there.

All the nations are called out—every
Called to take their turn about—'gainst the Hun.

Oh, that cruel, cultured crowd,
That of wicked things are proud,
They shall know their kins' in doubt—are this done.

Uncle Sam is in the fight—freedom's
He'll be there with all his might—do or die.

And when time is called by Mars,
There you'll find the stripes and stars—

In freedom's name, a red light—in the sky.

"Conscientious Objectors."

The solution found by Provost Marshal General Crowder to the so-called problem of "conscientious objectors"—those whose religious and moral training makes them accept the Tolstain doctrine of nonresistance, and who would therefore be worthless in physical combat—is an ideal one. In it he has followed the British idea.

When the Quakers and the other genuinely pacific elements of thought and conduct in Great Britain were faced by the problem of conscription for the war, they did not ask for escape from the obligation they owned their country, and protested vehemently against being classified merely as shirkers. They proposed that they be employed in the noncombatant side of warfare—that is, that they be placed in munition factories, or in any of the diversified industries which contribute to the maintenance of the fighting forces. The British government gladly accepted the suggestion, and appreciated the spirit in which it was offered.

Gen. Crowder has the same idea. It ought to be satisfactory to the country and to all concerned. The "conscientious objector" is not a slacker, and although he bears some of the odium which attaches to pacifism in days like these, he should be absolved from the suspicion of cowardice or of connivance with any of the malign forces seeking to sap the spirit of the nation.

The War Department thus defines the objector:

"Any person who is found by the local board to be a member of any well-recognized religious sect or organization, organized and existing May 15, 1917, and whose tenets or principles forbid its members to participate in war in any form, and whose religious convictions are against war or participation therein, in accordance with the creed or principles of the said religious organizations."

There should be no cheap or short-sighted ridicule of this class when it makes an honest case for itself. Much as Quakerism is to be deplored in a crisis like this, we cannot fail to recognize its true adherents, or of the service they have given the country in past times. To subject them to ostracism or any form of social cruelty would be unjust and futile. They must be accepted as they are, also their assurance that they will give the country their best service in the war industries for which they are to be drafted.

The false Quaker, the false "conscientious objector," who suddenly finds his antiwar scruples a convenient method of evading service, should be held up to contempt and punishment. There should be no great task in distinguishing between the false and the genuine, between the Quaker and the slacker.

The First of Hooverism.

First of all, let the American people be thankful that they have a dynamic force in Herbert Hoover to clean up the Augean stables of American business, or certain branches of it; second, that he is starting early with a powerful thrust that is going to send the speculators who call themselves business men scurrying like rats into their holes, and is going to keep them there.

We do not think Hoover is going to win without a real man's fight of it. Speculation and the slipshod profiteering that goes with it are fairly well entrenched in this country. They have become a sort of a vested interest. Men who are fattening off the public have yelled "socialism" or "crushing individual enterprise" whenever the government has probed into their game. They have always defied regulation. Only their spectacular excesses have been curtailed. Even now, in war times, they would like to fight the government—if they dared. And some of them will dare. They are going to be hurt, but they do not see that part of it now.

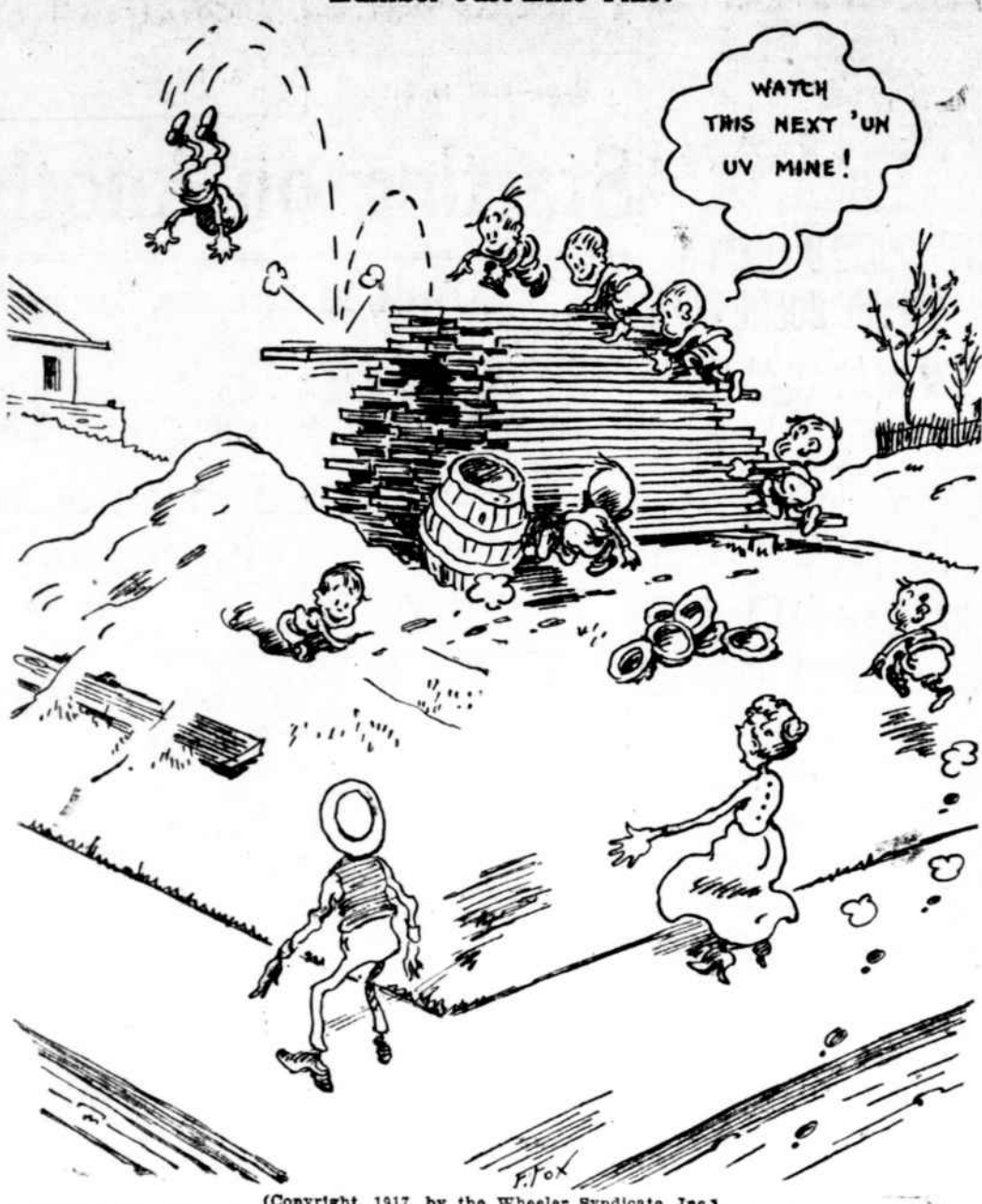
But before he finishes his job, we predict that Hoover will have accomplished that which all the "trust-busters," the muck-rakers, the regulators, big and small, have utterly failed to accomplish. He will have shown the American people the pith and essence of the economic problem that has confronted them for the past decade. He will have shown them how to change business from private profit into public service; how high prices are artificially maintained; how the market is held up by the producers; how the consumer does not even get the benefit of such competition as there is, because of the enormous growth of parasitism in the processes of distribution.

That will be quite an achievement. At the present time our eyes are turned from our long-standing domestic problems, we are thinking only of the war and how to win it. But out of the war will come many things—it will send not only the Kaiser to the scrap heap, but other things, including many economic fetiches which we foolishly worshipped in the days gone by.

We are learning from Germany. We are learning why she, hopelessly outnumbered, with only a tithe of the food, the money, the resources, of the nations battling against her, is able to end a fourth year of war with the end by no means in sight. For a generation Germany has been applying a rational, skillful, economic collectivism. But she has used it to the chariot of an unscrupulous autocracy instead of to democracy. In fact, many Americans up to the present day have thought collectivism—as opposed to individual enterprise and to business unrestrained—incompatible with our brand of democracy. The war is exposing that fallacy.

To win the war the United States has got to resort to the German method of industrial control. After such control it is unthinkable that the American people will again permit the exploitation they have suffered in the past.

Why Can't a Building Contractor Always Leave His Sand and Lumber Just Like This?



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HOLLAND LETTER

The Biggest Daily Financial News Feature of the Country's Best Newspapers.

If, by reason of the appeals of the government and such substantial aid as it can give, the farmers of the United States harvest next year a billion bushels of wheat, that will be no more than James J. Hill asserted some years ago could be harvested. If only certain wise methods were adopted, and if large areas of uncultivated lands available for wheat should be brought within the reach of the farmers, Mr. Hill took issue with John W. Bookwalter, who at one time was the Democratic candidate for governor of Ohio, and who after his defeat spent much time in studying wheat conditions in the United States and elsewhere.

Mr. Bookwalter predicted that within ten or fifteen years the United States would raise no more wheat than was sufficient to meet domestic demands. He foresaw, as he thought, the coming of the day when we would be compelled to import wheat.

Mr. Bookwalter's predictions were not justified by the events. By reason of the inspiration of James J. Hill, Howard Elliott and others, vast amounts of new wheat lands were opened for cultivation in the Northwest and States like Montana, which at one time produced little or no wheat, astonished the country by the magnitude of the aggregate production and the amount of bushels produced to each acre. Only a year or so before Mr. Hill's death he said in a private conversation that there was only one consideration and that was one which could not be controlled by any human agency, that would make it impossible to harvest a wheat crop in the United States in a single year of as much as a billion bushels. The contingency to which he referred was climatic conditions. These have, this year, seriously impaired the crops, and in the Northwest, which has become within twenty years one of the chief wheat-raising sections of the Union, the weather has played sad havoc.

Mr. Hill was much interested, believing that its possibilities for very great cultivation of wheat were equal to those of the State of the Union. This year notwithstanding highly competent work of an organization which undertook to persuade the farmers to increase their acreage, the crop situation in the North Dakota is discouraging. In the eastern third of the State, the outlook is for only a fair harvest and in the remainder of the State it is decidedly poor.

So also, Mr. Hill and Howard Elliott, when he was president of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, looked for a magnificent harvest of wheat in Montana, realizing that nothing but a bad weather could cause them to meet with disappointment. The climate has been very bad this year in Eastern Montana where the harvest yield will be no better than in the fair. In the western half of the State the prospect is for a fair harvest, at least. In some parts of North Dakota they will harvest not more than twelve bushels to the acre, and in other parts from seven to eight bushels. Minnesota, on the other hand, is likely to maintain her splendid reputation as a wheat producer. Reports from the Minneapolis market, however, will be the crucial year of the war, for the wheat fields that stretch for many miles northwest of that city are in good condition.

It is not to be presumed, however, that unfavorable weather will affect the harvests of wheat next summer all over the country. For the wheat belts are of vast extent. And if the law of averages hold true, then next year the climate should be as favorable as it was in 1914 and 1915. The report from Washington that the Secretary of Agriculture is to undertake such a mission as will inspire confidence that the wheat harvests of next year may be as much as a billion bushels is spoken of as very significant, at least respecting the views of the government as well as in the war. Furthermore, it suggests to those who have given the appeal careful consideration that the government at Washington believes that the year 1918 will be the crucial year of the war, for in the midmonths of that year we shall probably have attained the high degree of efficiency in all directions, which is necessary if we are to look with confidence upon the outcome of the war.

A billion bushels of wheat will furnish not only an adequate supply for domestic consumption, but should provide a surplus sufficient to meet the needs of the allies. The Washington authorities believe that wheat is almost as essential as a war munition as is powder.

If the additional acres that are needed fairly well to guarantee a harvest of a billion bushels of wheat are cultivated, there must be in the first place assurance that the farmers will receive adequate financial assistance. The banks in the greater agricultural divisions, especially those where wheat is cultivated, were in the spring of this year willing to give the farmers abundant accommodation. In the Northwest, for instance, the banks loaned many millions to the farmers, not being overparticular about risks. Many millions must be advanced to the farmers if a sufficient acreage for the harvest next year of a billion-bushel crop is planned.

In the next place, there must be organization comparable to that which was undertaken when the liberty loan was in course of subscription. Many of the States have already excellent organizations whose members are men of influence and character, sure to gain for them the confidence of the farmers. It was organization of this kind that led to increased acreage next year in the Northwest and, to some extent, in Kansas and Colorado.

Then again the farmers must plant their wheat with the assurance that even though they harvest more than a 1,000,000,000-bushel crop they will receive payment for the crop which will yield them returns that are sure to be satisfactory.

Machinery, especially the improved tractors and excellent transportation facilities, excepting in one or two sections of the country, will furnish all of the incidental factors needed provided the farmers secure loans sufficient to justify increased acreage and provided also there is assurance of prices that will yield fairly good profits. There appears to be some apprehension lest the farmers may be a little shy of fertilizing material, but the chemists have already discovered excellent substitutes for the fertilizers which in the past were enriched by infusing them with German potash. A billion bushels of wheat should bring to the farmers not less than \$2,000,000,000, and it will be spot cash.

Preparations for this hoped-for billion-bushel wheat harvest will be well under way within a few weeks.

THIEF MAKES HAUL FROM ANTIQUE SHOP

George Reynolds Reports Loss of \$200 to Police.

That the thief who burglarized the antique shop of George W. Reynolds, at 723 Thirtieth street northwest, early Sunday morning, had the eye of a connoisseur, is shown by the selection of works of art which he made off with.

A set of cut glass, an ebony case inlaid with brass, a seven piece set of Satsuma ware consisting of two saucers, one tea cup, one cream and one sugar pitcher, two palely shawls, one blue and white Venetian glass pitcher and a flash light was the result of the haul.

The fastidious burglar must have had a wagon waiting to carry away the load as there was more than a man could easily carry alone. The value put on the lot by the owner is \$200.

A baggage carrier to be mounted over the hood of an automobile is a novelty.

OPHELIA'S SLATE.

THE HARPER PUBLISHING CO. OF NEW YORK.

Army and Navy News

Best Service Column in City.

Modification in the specifications of the cloth used by the United States in uniforms, overcoats and blankets for the new national army means that the country must conserve its rags to help the shoddy manufacturers in supplying the enormous quantities of goods needed. This announcement was made recently in New York City by Samuel Kaplan, a representative of the Council of National Defense, who was presiding at a conference there of the whole-sale rag gatherers and shoddy manufacturers. Until recently the army's specifications were drawn in such a way as to shut out the use of shoddy.

At the request of the United States government five French officers of the army have been sent to this country to act as instructors in the serving of heavy modern ordnance, with particular reference to both forms of "barriage" fire, at the School of Fire, Fort Sill, Okla. The officers are Maj. Reille and Capt. Durette, Col. Edvin H. Pike, and No. 28, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Dr. W. M. L. Coplin.

Nine more Cross Red hospital service in France, in addition to those that have sailed or are ready to sail as already announced, are about ready for service. These organizations were formed at large civil hospitals with directors, who will be made majors in the Medical Reserve Corps, as follows: No. 19, Rochester, N. Y., General Hospital, Dr. John M. Swan; No. 20, University of Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, Dr. John B. Carnett; No. 26, State University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Dr. Arthur A. Law; No. 27, University of Pittsburgh Medical School, Dr. R. T. Miller; No. 31, Youngstown (Ohio) Hospital, Dr. Colin B. Clark; No. 32, City Hospital, Indianapolis, Dr. Charles H. Clark; No. 34, Episcopal Hospital, Philadelphia, Dr. A. P. C. Ashhurst; No. 37, Kings County Hospital, Brooklyn, Dr. Edwin H. Pike, and No. 38, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Dr. W. M. L. Coplin.

By all means, girls, prepare a lemon lotion to keep your skin flexible and young looking. You will soon realize that the softness does not mean the powder-look or waxen colorlessness of some hot-house flower, but is typified by the velvety softness of your own peach-like complexion and rosy white hands.

At the cost of a small jar of ordinary cold cream one can prepare a full quart of the most wonderful lemon skin softener and complexion beautifier, by squeezing the juice of two fresh lemons into a bottle containing three ounces of orchard white. Care should be taken to strain the juice through a fine cloth so no lemon pulp gets in. Then this lotion will keep fresh for months. Every woman knows that lemon juice is used to bleach and remove such blemishes as freckles, yellowish spots, and is the ideal skin softener, smoother and beautifier.

Just try it. Get three ounces of orchard white at any pharmacy and make up a quart of the most wonderful lemon skin softener and complexion beautifier, by squeezing the juice of two fresh lemons into a bottle containing three ounces of orchard white. Care should be taken to strain the juice through a fine cloth so no lemon pulp gets in. Then this lotion will keep fresh for months. Every woman knows that lemon juice is used to bleach and remove such blemishes as freckles, yellowish spots, and is the ideal skin softener, smoother and beautifier.

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FLYLESS CITY NOW

BRIGHT POSSIBILITY

Each Season Sees a Decrease in Loathsome Pest.

A flyless Washington has at last become a possibility.

A marked decrease has taken place in the ranks of the loathsome brigade, and the pests which once swarmed into the city during the summer seem to be seeking a more congenial climate. Although no statistics are forthcoming from the Health Department, a general survey of conditions in the District shows that there are now less flies here than at any other time.

"If there has been any decrease in flies in Washington," a high health department official declared yesterday, "it is due to the sanitary conditions of the District. The abatement of breeding places of flies has been going on for some years, and to this and to the general sanitary condition of the city should be ascribed any decrease of the pests."

Washingtonians have long been educated in the art of exterminating flies, with the result that, during the last few years, they have been well thinned out before the summer. It is this early summer extermination which is given credit by authorities for the almost complete disappearance of the fly here.

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